

**Winona Drive and Tyrrel Avenue - school bus loading
and student pick-up/drop-off zones**

Date:	December 7, 2007
To:	Public Works and Infrastructure Committee
From:	General Manager, Transportation Services
Wards:	St. Paul's, Ward 21 and Davenport, Ward 17
Reference Number:	Pw08003te.top.doc

SUMMARY

This staff report is about a matter on a boundary road affecting more than one Community Council.

Transportation Services is requesting approval to identify “Student Pick-up and Drop-off Areas”, with a maximum 15-minute parking limit at certain times of day on the east side of Winona Drive, north of Tyrrel Avenue, and on the north side of Tyrrel Avenue, east of Winona Drive. This proposal also requires relocating a “School Bus Loading Zone” on the east side of Winona Drive, to a point further south, closer to the main doors of the two schools in the area.

These measures enhance safety for children, minimize conflicts between private vehicles and school bus operations, and improve over all student pick-up/drop-off operations during arrival and dismissal times at the schools and daycare centres in the area.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends that City Council:

1. approve installation of Student Pick-up and Drop-off Areas and relocation of an existing School Bus Loading Zone, as outlined in Appendix A; and
2. approve the amendments to the parking regulations on Winona Drive and Tyrrel Avenue detailed in Appendix A of this report to enable installation of the Student Pick-up and Drop-off Areas and relocation of the School Bus Loading Zone.

Financial Impact

Type of Funding	Source of Funds	Amount
Available within current budget	Transportation Services Division 2008 Operating Budget interim appropriations.	\$1500.00

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Councillor Joe Mihevc, on behalf of the McMurrich Sprouts Daycare, 115 Winona Drive, asked Transportation Services to identify a “Student Pick-up and Drop-off Area”, with short-term parking on the east side of Winona Drive, between Tyrrel Avenue and Benson Avenue. The intent is to promote a safer environment for children, provide co-ordinated loading operations at the daycare and nearby schools, and discourage unlawful parking during school arrival/dismissal times.

COMMENTS

Site Description

McMurrich Sprouts Daycare, McMurrich Junior Public School, Winona Senior Public School, McMurrich Co-op Play School, and Oakwood Children’s House are all located on the east side of Winona Drive, between Tyrrel Avenue and Benson Avenue.

Winona Drive

Winona Drive is a local road operating two-way on a pavement width of 8.5 metres with a maximum speed limit of 30 km/h. Speed humps are installed on this street. There is no TTC service on Winona Drive. The following parking regulations are in effect on Winona Drive, between Tyrrel Avenue and Benson Avenue:

West side:

- Parking is prohibited from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday to Friday from Benson Avenue to a point 73.2 metres south thereof;
- Parking is prohibited at anytime from a point 73.2 metres south of Benson Avenue to a point 17 metres further south;
- Parking is allowed by permit only from 12:01 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. daily, from Benson Avenue to Tyrrel Avenue; and
- Parking is allowed for a maximum period of one hour from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, from a point 90 metres south of Benson Avenue to Tyrrel Avenue.

East side:

- Parking is prohibited at all times from Tyrrel Avenue to Benson Avenue; and
- A School Bus Loading Zone is in effect from a point 35 metres south of Benson Avenue to a point 50 metres further south.

Tyrrel Avenue

Tyrrel Avenue, from Winona Drive to Greensides Avenue is a local road operating two-way with a pavement width of 8.5 metres and a maximum posted speed limit of 40 km/h. No TTC service operates on this street. The following regulations are in effect on Tyrrel Avenue in the vicinity of McMurrich Sprouts Daycare:

North side:

- Parking is prohibited at all times from Winona Drive to a point 152.5 metres east thereof;
- Parking is allowed by permit only from 12:01 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. daily, from a point 152.5 metres east of Winona Drive to Greensides Avenue (subject to alternate side parking regulations that apply on this section of the street); and
- Parking is otherwise allowed for a maximum period of three hours.

South side:

- Parking is prohibited from 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., daily from Winona Drive to Hillcrest Drive;
- Parking is allowed by permit only from 12:01 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. daily, from Winona Drive to Hillcrest Drive; and
- Parking is prohibited from 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., from the 1st to 15th day of each month from April 1st to November 30th and from December 1st of one year to March 31st of the next following year, from Hillcrest Drive to Arlington Avenue.

Investigation

With the exception of the School Bus Loading Zone, identified on the east side of Winona Drive, south of Benson Avenue there are no other designated loading areas where parents and/or guardians transporting children to and from the schools and daycares located on the east side Winona Drive between Tyrrel Avenue and Benson Avenue may legally park for short periods of time. Staff observed the following activities.

School Bus Loading:

- School buses pick-up and drop-off children on the east side of Winona Drive near Benson Avenue. Loading/unloading takes place at the curb near McMurrich Junior School. Students are not required to cross the street. If private vehicles are blocking the School Bus Loading Zone buses must stop elsewhere on the street and drivers must activate the bus's red flashing lights during loading and unloading operations. This brings traffic flow to a stop on Winona Drive.

Other Pick-up/Drop-off Operations

- Parents/guardians park illegally on the east and west sides of Winona Drive and escort their children to and from the schools and daycares. Cars often conflict with each other and the school buses. In some instances illegally parked vehicles prevent buses from pulling up at the curb to safely unload children. Illegally

parked vehicles also obstruct visibility between children crossing Winona Drive and motorists on Winona Drive.

Parents/guardians and school buses have a need to stop or park safely for short periods of time during arrival and dismissal times at the schools and daycare centres in the area.

Resolution

Identifying one or more Student Pick-up and Drop-off Areas (with short-term parking allowed) in the vicinity of the schools/daycare centres will significantly improve the current conflicts between buses and private vehicles.

Staff recommends identifying Student Pick-up and Drop-off Areas on:

- the east side of Winona Drive, from a point 15 metres south of Benson Avenue to a point 30 metres further south; and
- the north side of Tyrrel Avenue, from a point 15 metres east of Winona Drive to a point 137.5 metres further east.

Staff also recommends allowing parking in each of these areas for a maximum period of 15 minutes, from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., from 10:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and from 3:15 p.m. to 6:15 p.m., Monday to Friday. Parking will remain prohibited at all other times in these areas.

These new Student Pick-up and Drop-off Areas will provide legal parking for about 30 cars during the times described. Representatives of each school/daycare have confirmed the 15-minute time periods noted are appropriate and will meet the needs of persons escorting children to and from the schools/daycares.

This proposal requires relocating the "School Bus Loading Zone" about 10 metres further south on Winona Drive. This provides a shorter distance for disabled students to travel between the entrance to Winona Senior Public School and the bus loading area. Prohibiting stopping from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday in the School Bus Loading Zone (a regulation to which school buses are exempt) will discourage other motorists from using this area. The parking prohibition in the School Bus Loading Zone is maintained at all other times.

The proposals are shown on the attached print of Drawing No. 421F-9132, dated November, 2007.

The combination of two new short-term parking/Student Pick-up and Drop-off Areas and relocated School Bus Loading Zone will separate the two types of loading and unloading activities taking place at the school, provide a safer environment for children, minimize conflict between school buses and private vehicles and maintain traffic flow on Winona Drive (school buses will not have to use red flashers when children are getting on/off the bus).

Winona Drive is a boundary roadway separating St. Paul's, Ward 21 on the east side, represented by Councillor Joe Mihevc and Davenport, Ward 17 on the west side, represented by Councillor Cesar Palacio. Transportation Services consulted with both Councillors and both have expressed their support of this proposal.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS

Appendix A – Parking By-law amendments
Drawing No. 421F-9132, dated November 2007

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